

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS

No. 6:20-cr-00038

United States of America

v.

Chris Alan Irby, Jr.

ORDER


Defendant's unopposed motion to continue the trial, Doc. 17, is **granted**. The new deadlines and court settings are as follows:

- Deadline for pretrial motions (except motions for continuance): Sept. 28, 2020
- Deadline to file motion for continuance or notify the court of a plea agreement: Oct. 5, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.
- Pretrial conference: Oct. 26, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.
- Jury selection and trial: Nov. 2, 2020 at 9:30 a.m.

A speedy trial is desirable, but “a myopic insistence upon expeditiousness in the face of a justifiable request for delay can render the right to defend with counsel an empty formality.” *Ungar v. Sarafite*, 376 U.S. 575, 589 (1964). Considering the factors listed in 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7), the ends of justice served by this continuance outweigh the interest of the public and the defendant in a speedy trial. In this case, defendant's counsel reports that additional time is needed “to engage in the review, analysis, preparation, assimilation, and negotiation contemplated by the requirements of effective assistance of counsel under the Fifth and Sixth Amendments to the U.S. Constitution.” Doc. 17 at 3. In addition, the defendant's

counsel needs additional time “to establish the sort of attorney-client relationship where communication and trust flow both ways.” *Id.* Failure to grant a continuance would create an appreciable likelihood of a miscarriage of justice by failing to give Irby and his newly appointed attorney enough time to prepare Irby’s case. This continuance will ensure counsel the reasonable time necessary for effective preparation, considering due diligence. Therefore, the period of delay that will result from this continuance is excludable under the Speedy Trial Act. *See* 18 U.S.C. § 3161(h)(7).

*So ordered by the court on August 14, 2020.*

  
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J. CAMPBELL BARKER  
United States District Judge